

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): A portable electronic device comprising:

- 5 electronic components providing at least a function of the portable
 electronic device;
 a ground pad electrically connected to the electronic components;
 an electrically conductive material electrically connected to the ground pad;
 a Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) module for displaying output according to
 the electronic components;
10 a light guide for backlighting the LCD module, the light guide comprising:
 a translucent plate having a first major face adjacent to the LCD
 module, and a second major face adjacent to the electronic
 components; and
 a metallic shield directly disposed on the second major face of the
15 translucent plate and electrically connected to the conductive
 material; and
 a light source controlled by the electronic components to emit light into the
 translucent plate of the light guide;
 whereby the light guide shields the LCD module from electrostatic discharge of
20 the electronic components, and serves as a shield for electromagnetic radiation.

Claim 2 (original): The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein the translucent
plate has a plurality of recesses formed into the second major face to scatter internally
reflected light, and the metallic shield reflects the scattered light to exit the first face
25 of the translucent plate.

Claim 3 (original): The portable electronic device of claim 2 further comprising at
least a reflecting strip adhered to the translucent plate for directing light from the light
source into the translucent plate.
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Claim 4 (original): The portable electronic device of claim 2 wherein the light source
is a Light Emitting Diode (LED).

Claim 5 (original): The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein the function of the electronic components is that of a mobile phone or a personal digital assistant (PDA).

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Claim 6 (original): The portable electronic device of claim 1 wherein the electrically conductive material is an electrically conductive sponge.

Claim 7 (original): A method for providing electrical shielding comprising:

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providing electronic components that provide functionality associated with the portable electronic device;

providing a ground pad electrically connected to the electronic components;

providing an electrically conductive material electrically connected to the ground pad;

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providing an LCD module for displaying output according to the electronic components;

providing a translucent plate having a first major face adjacent to the LCD module, and a second major face adjacent to the electronic components; and

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disposing a metallic shield onto the second major face of the translucent plate, the metallic shield electrically connected to the electrically conductive material.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the metallic shield is disposed onto the second major face of the translucent plate by a metal sputtering process.

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Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the metallic shield grounds and reflects electromagnetic radiation.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the metallic shield grounds electrostatic discharge originating from the electronic components, dissipating the electrostatic discharge to the ground pad through the conductive material.

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Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the electrically conductive material is an electrically conductive sponge.